

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 10, 2020

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW20

MEMBERS: Chairman Wood, Vice Chairman Wagoner, Representatives Vander Woude, Gibbs, Blanksma, Kingsley, Zollinger, Christensen, Lickley, Remington, Chew, Rubel, Davis

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Emily McClure, IMA; Andrew Bradbury and Rebecca Bradbury, Rexburg Free Clinic; Colleen Shackelford, Nurse Practitioners of Idaho; Kris Ellis, IHCA-INP; Tammy Perkins, NPI; Liz Hatter, Idaho Dental Assoc.; John Shackelford, None; Kacee O'Connor, AAUW; Francoise Cleveland, AARP-Idaho; Caroline Merritt, Idaho Society of Health System Pharmasies; Brian Whitlock, IHA

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

RS 27613: **Rep. John McCrostie**, District 16, presented **RS 27613**. This proposed legislation stipulates an Idaho licensed mental health professional shall not engage in the practice of conversion therapy, which seeks to change sexual orientation or gender identity, for anyone under eighteen years of age. Survivors of this practice are at a high risk for extreme depression, abuse of alcohol or drugs, illicit behavior, and suicide. This does not apply to clergy and religious counselors, as long as they are not acting as mental health professionals. Parental rights are protected, as long as the parents are not acting as mental health professionals.

MOTION: **Rep. Gibbs** made a motion to introduce **RS 27613**.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Vander Woude** made a substitute motion to return **RS 27613** to the sponsor. **Motion failed by voice vote.**

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION: **Chairman Wood** called for a vote on the original motion to introduce **RS 27613**. **Motion carried by voice vote. Reps. Christensen, Blanksma, and Vander Woude** requested they be recorded as voting **NAY**.

S 1240: **Colleen Shackelford**, Nurse Practitioner (NP), Committee Chairman, Nurse Practitioners of Idaho, presented **S 1240**. This global signature authority bill allows NPs to practice independently and sign specified forms, normally signed by physicians, used in their medical offices. It provides comprehensive patient care, especially where there is limited access to primary care professionals. The NP is most familiar with the patient, so requiring a physician signature is redundant, increases costs, is a duplication of effort, and delays care. This will allow NPs to practice at the top of their license and education.

For the record, no one indicated their desire to testify.

MOTION: **Rep. Davis** made a motion to send **S 1240** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Davis** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 392: **Emily McClure**, Idaho Medical Association, presented **H 392** to expand the civil liability limit for health professionals and students volunteering at free clinics and health screening events. Patients must be informed if the provider is a student and waive the liability. Students must also be under direct supervision of a licensed health care provider. The health care provider definition is updated, expanded, and specifies the volunteers are practicing within their scope of practice. Volunteer time would be counted as part of the minimal clinical hours required for students. The volunteers would receive no compensation. To qualify, they must be volunteering at a free medical clinic or community health screening event, with no use of general anesthesia, and no overnight hospital stay.

MOTION: **Rep. Kingsley** made a motion to send **H 392** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Andrew Bradbury, Rexburg Free Clinic, testified in support of **H 392**. This will help his volunteer staff expand to include professionals who are retired or work for larger organizations. It would also allow mental health professionals and NPs to volunteer.

Liz Hatter, Idaho State Dental Association, testified in support of **H 392**.

For the record, no one else indicated their desire to testify.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Chairman Wood** called for a vote on the motion to send **H 392** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Kingsley** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1242: **Kris Ellis**, Idaho Healthcare Association, presented **S 1242**, to allow Nursing Home Administrators to qualify for the exam without taking the nursing home administrators' course. This will address the experience side of the nursing home administrators. She turned the presentation over to **Brian Whitlock**.

Brian Whitlock, President Idaho Hospital Association, continued the presentation of **S 1242**. Hospital chief executive officers are also nursing home administrators for hospital-adjacent facilities. The 1,000 hours in an administrators-in-training program is exempted if the individual has a Masters Degree in Health Administration (MHA) with an emphasis in long-term care, or has an MHA and one year of management experience in long-term care, or has a Masters of Business Administration (MBA), with an emphasis in health care and one year of management experience in an inpatient facility. This will help attract administrators from other states. The nursing home administrator exam must still be taken and passed.

For the record, no one indicated their desire to testify.

MOTION: **Rep. Lickley** made a motion to send **S 1242** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Gibbs** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Representative Wood
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary